

January 20, 2002

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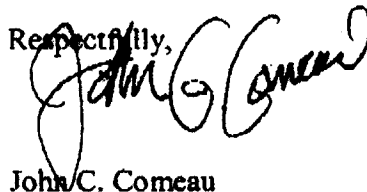
Dear Attorney Hesse:

I am a member of Americans for Technology Leadership, an organization of citizens, consumers, and high-tech professionals who are dedicated to minimizing unnecessary regulatory intrusion into the information technology industry. For this reason, I am writing to urge the court to accept the settlement reached in the antitrust case between Microsoft and the Justice Department lawyers. This case has been a tremendous drain on the creative energies of the technology world, and its settlement can only be a positive for the country as we deal with a lingering recession.

The information technology industry is dependent on the freedom to innovate that is essential for new products to come into being. The implications of the suggested remedies beyond those reached in the agreement are ominous. The high-tech sector cannot endure the added impediment of a stultifying new regulatory presence by the federal government. If the issue is serious wrongs on the part of Microsoft, then punish them, and move on. If, however, the issue is creating a windfall for less successful competitors, then please don't punish the rest of us by imposing new sanctions, and regulatory hoops to jump through.

This country will be much better served if the Justice Department spends its time concerned with real threats to our safety and liberty, and if the companies involved in high-tech all got back to innovating rather than litigating. I ask that the Justice Department advocate this settlement to the Judge, and in doing so serve the American people, and the nation's greater interests.

Respectfully,



John C. Comeau